

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings and versions thereof.

1. (Currently amended) A method for transforming a plant by introducing a heterologous nucleic acid encoding a protein which comprises

I) providing the heterologous nucleic acid wherein the nucleic acid comprises a modified nucleic acid sequence of a ferric-chelate reductase FRE1 from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, wherein the sequence for encoding an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 is modified by (A) and (B) ~~without inactivating the protein encoded by the nucleic acid sequence for~~ eliminating a region or sequence of a factor relating to the polyadenylation addition of the mRNA of the plant from the heterologous nucleic acid, wherein (A) and (B) comprise:

(A) modifying GT rich regions comprising 8 or more consecutive bases of G or T into another base sequence not relating to polyadenylation addition, and

(B) modifying sequences selected from the group consisting of ATTTA, NATAAA, ANTAAA, AANAAA, AATNAA, AATANA, and AATAAN of which N is A, G, C or T into another base sequence not relating to polyadenylation addition

II) introducing the modified heterologous nucleic acid into the plant, and

III) expressing the modified heterologous nucleic acid in the plant.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~polyadenylation signal sequence~~ sequence selected from the group consisting of ATTTA, NATAAA, ANTAAA, AANAAA, AATNAA, AATANA, and AATAAN of which N is A, G, C or T is located downstream from the GT rich region ~~sequence~~.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the modification of the ~~polyadenylation signal sequence~~ sequence selected from the group consisting of ATTTA, NATAAA, ANTAAA, AANAAA, AATNAA, AATANA, and AATAAN

of which N is A, G, C or T and the GT rich region ~~sequence~~ is performed based on a codon usage of the plant to be transformed.

6-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the plant is gramineae.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the plant is tobacco.

15. (Previously presented) A transformed plant which can be produced by the method according to claim 1.

16. (Previously presented) A seed produced by the plant according to claim 15, wherein said seed comprises the heterologous nucleic acid.

17-18. (Cancelled)